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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Craig McCarthy, et al. ) Re: Preliminary Amendment  
Serial No.: 10/763,732 )  
Filed: January 23, 2004 )  
Our Ref: B-5568CONT 951406-4 )  
For: "SECURE CONDUIT (PATHWAY) )  
SYSTEM FOR..." ) Date: December 20, 2004

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This paper is being filed as a Preliminary Amendment to the above-identified Application. Please amend the above-identified application as described below. **All amendments and remarks herein are made without prejudice.**

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 3 of this paper.